

Patent Claims

1. A method for removing a layer area (7, 10) of a component (1), in which acid is used, characterized in that the component (1) is firstly treated in at least one salt bath (13), and then, in a further method step, is treated at least once with at least a first acid or at least a first acid mixture, the component (1) being treated with a complex-forming agent in an intermediate or final step.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that sodium hydroxide (NaOH) and/or potassium hydroxide (KOH) is used for the salt bath (13).
3. The method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that potassium hydroxide and sodium hydroxide in a mixture ratio of 1 to 1 (% by volume) is used for the salt bath (13).
4. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) or phosphoric acid (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) or a

mixture thereof is used as acid for the at least first acid bath (13).

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in  
5 that two different acid baths (13) are used.
6. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in  
that hydrochloric acid (HCl) is used as acid for  
the second acid bath (13).
- 10 7. The method as claimed in claim 5, characterized in  
that first of all nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) or phosphoric  
acid (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) or a mixture thereof, and then  
hydrochloric acid (HCl) are used.
- 15 8. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in  
that an ultrasound probe (17) is used in the bath  
(13) to accelerate the method.

9. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that before the treatment of the component (1) in the salt bath (13) and/or after the treatment in the salt bath (13) and/or after the first acid treatment and/or after a further acid treatment, the component (1) having the layer area (7, 10) that is to be removed is sand-blasted, or flow grinding is carried out with the component (1).
- 10 10. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that at least one oxygen donor is added to the salt bath.
11. The method as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the at least one oxygen donor is an oxide.
12. The method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, characterized in that the at least one oxygen donor is a metal oxide.
13. The method as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that the metal oxide is sodium oxide ( $\text{NaO}_2$ ).

14. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the component (1) is watered and/or dried in at least one intermediate step.